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## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES FUNDS FOR EARLY WARNING SIRENS TO CITY OF NEELYVILLE AND BUTLER COUNTY

In a Mock Check ceremony on September 1, 2005, Greg C. Branum, SD RD, presented a check for \$10,145 to the City of Neelyville. The checks will fund early warning sirens for their citizens.

"This is clearly a wise investment of the hard-earned tax dollars Missourians send to Washington," stated Senator "Kit" Bond, a member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee that funds the Department of Agriculture. "I commend the efforts of the City of Neelyville and Butler County for their efforts to protect the citizens from coming in harms way."

U.S Representative Jo Ann Emerson said, "Early warning sirens save lives in the Heartland. Serious weather emergencies are a life-and-death matter for us in Southern Missouri. I appreciate Rural Development's investment in the safety and well-being of our residents and our property. This is another way of investing in our preparedness and security which is very worthwhile. The City of Neelyville and Butler County will certainly be able to put these much-needed funds to good use."



**City of Neelyville:** Joe Humphrey, Presiding Commissioner, Phyllis Minner, RD Specialist, Greg Branum, SD RD, Larry Woods, Mayor of Neelyville, Pam Anglin, RD Manager, Richard Couch, Butler Cty. Mgmt., Jeff Darnell, Butler Cty. Commissioner, and Robert Meyers, Butler Cty. Commissioner.

"Rural Development is very proud to be able to assist communities in Butler County with these important projects," said Branum. "The City of Neelyville and Butler County has made a strong commitment to provide quality service to the residents and these funds will enhance their ability to do so. Providing emergency warnings is a vital necessity for the safety of any community."

Joe Humphrey, Presiding Commissioner, "stated that the Butler County Commissioners are proud to work with Rural Development to enhance the safety of our citizens. We appreciate all the hard work and support from Greg Branum and all the Rural Development staff".

"The storm warning system is important to the community and we would like to thank the USDA, Rural Development and Health Department teams for their efforts on this project," said Larry Woods, Mayor of City of Neelyville.

"Funding important projects like this by Rural Development mirrors President Bush's initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities," Branum added.



**Butler County:** Joe Humphrey, Presiding Commissioner, Phyllis Minner, RD Specialist, Greg Branum, SD RD, Richard Couch, Butler Cty. Mgmt., Pam Anglin, RD Manager, Jeff Darnell, Butler Cty. Commissioner, and Robert Meyers, Butler Cty. Commissioner.

“Appreciation is also extended to U.S. Senators “Kit” Bond and Jim Talent and U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians.”

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA’s web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or can contact Pam Anglin , at Poplar Bluff, 4327 Hwy 67 N, Poplar Bluff, Missouri 63901 or by calling 573-785-9679 ext. 4.

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